special additional duty and wilt have to be in conformity with all the 'national laws, rules and standards.

There is no proposal to maintain quantitative restriction on items like handlooms and handicrafts. However, for the protection of domestic industry, the Government can, if the situation so warrants, utilize the mechanism of raising the applied tariffs within the bound rates, if such a gap exists and take measures such as Anti-Dumping action, imposition of Countervailing Duties and Safeguards Actions. The imports are being closely monitored and Government is determined to ensure through the appropriate use of above mechanisms, that imports do not cause any serious injury to the domestic producers.

Low Collection of Taxes

*556. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the overall mobilisation of direct and indirect taxes was substantially below the budget target;

(b) if so, the details of the target fixed and collection made durmg the year; and

(c) the reasons for the low collection of taxes?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) and (b) The details of the targets, fixed and collection made during the year 2000-2001 are as follows:

(Rs. in crore)

Tax head	BE (2000-01)	RE (2000-01)	Actual Collection (upto Feb., 2001)
Central Excise	70967	70399	59508
Customs	53572	49781	42619
Other Indirect Taxes	3030	3030	3130
Corporation Tax	4OO40	38721	25062
Income Tax	31590	35271	24467
Other Direct Taxes	475	475	412
TOTAL:	199674	197677	155198

(c) The major reasons for low collection of indirect taxes include lower growth in certain sectors of the economy, increase in the excise duty exemption limits in SSI, sluggish growth in non-POL imports, and reduction in customs duty on crude oil and petroleum products. The main reasons for low collection of direct taxes are slowdown in the capital market, huge payments made by public sector banks in connection with voluntary retirement scheme, lesser payment of advance tax by many top companies, allowing 100% deduction under the provisions of Section 80G of the Income Tax Act, 1961 in respect of donations for the victims of earthquake in Gujarat, and impact of earthquake on the collections in respect of manufacturing units in Gujarat (being assessed in Gujarat as well as elsewhere).

Raids on the Offices and Residences of Customs Officials

•557. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently CBI raided the offices and residences of about 50 senior and middle level Customs Officials in different cities for having done undue favours to some private companies, besides their alleged involovement in smuggling activities; and